GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2848
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2006
OBJECTIONABLE LANGUAGE FOR HINDU GODS AND GODDESSES
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the objectionable Language has been used for Hindu gods and goddesses specially Lord Vishnu, Lord Krishna and Ma Durga in books of IGNOU;

(b) if so, the details of references about Lord Shiva and Ma Durga that have been included;

(c) whether Government propose to delete these objectionable references from the books; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) As per the information furnished by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), some objectionable portions came to notice in the study material of Module-3 (known as `Religious Traditions and Philosophy of Bhakti` in English and `Dhaimik Paramparayen aur Bhakti Darshan` in Hindi) of an elective course, MHI-07 (`Religious thoughts and Beliefs in India`) of the above mentioned M.A. History programme in April 2006.

(b) Objectionable portions regarding Lord Shiva were noticed on page 29 and objectionable portions against Goddess Durga were noticed on page 31-32 of Module - 3 of the study material mentioned in para (a).

(c) & (d) The University has decided to edit and amend such portions and to constitute an Expert Committee to review the entire course and make suggestions/modifications. It has also decided to discontinue the course for future candidates till it is reviewed and finalized by the Committee.